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LAMDA
THE LONDON
ACADEMY OF
MUSIC AND
DRAMATIC ART

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GOLDMAN SACHS AWARDS PRESTIGIOUS ARTS SCHOLARSHIP

The London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA) announces that **Goldman Sachs International**, a leading investment bank, has awarded its fourth Arts Scholarship to an acting student from the Academy. Rowan Finneġan, from Dublin, won the prestigious £5,000 scholarship following a demanding audition at the firm's UK Headquarters in Fleet Street.

27 year old Rowan, a graduate with a BA in Theatre Studies from the University of Wales, appeared in various shows on the Fringe, such as *Dancehall Days* at Riverside Studios, before gaining his place on LAMDA's two year BA (Hons) Professional Acting Course in 2005.

Expressing his sincerest thanks to the bank, Rowan said, "I am deeply grateful to Goldman Sachs for its incredible generosity. Their support means I will be able to focus entirely on my professional training during this final year, without being reliant on waiting tables. Rowan attributes his new-found confidence to LAMDA's training, stating that the Academy has helped him to find his own voice."

In addition to supporting Rowan through his final year at the Academy, Goldman Sachs is also a Corporate member of LAMDA's Friends scheme, the *LAMDA Angels*, which plays an essential role in supporting the Academy's work. As Corporate Archangels, Goldman Sachs has already donated £20,000 to LAMDA's *Student Hardship Fund*, a fund set up to ensure students in financial difficulty are able to continue their studies.

Commenting on the Scholarship, Victoria Legge-Bourke, Executive Director for Cultural and Social Affairs at the bank said, "Goldman Sachs has had a close association with both the visual and performing arts for a long time and we are keen to support projects of merit and excellence. LAMDA is among the very best drama schools in the world and we are proud to play an active role in nurturing exceptional young talent, such as Rowan, at grass root level."

LAMDA is thrilled that Goldman Sachs has committed to support its students in this way and is delighted to announce that former Goldman Sachs Scholar and LAMDA alumnus (2005), Paul Shelford, is due to take the lead in the West End production of *Mamma Mia* from March 2007.

Ends/

Photograph available upon request.

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